

Proclamation

Whereas, from the Great Lakes to Long Island, from the High Peaks to the Southern Tier, New York State boasts many beautiful and scenic areas that are enhanced by the diversity of our climate, however, as each new season arrives, New Yorkers also face the continual threat of severe weather that may cause disruption, or worse, life-threatening devastation in their day-to-day lives; and

Whereas, severe weather did indeed strike the Empire State this past year, disrupting the daily lives of thousands of New Yorkers, especially the series of flooding events that occurred in the spring and summer of 2005, forcing many from their homes and causing widespread damage – each time, the State's response was swift in providing help to its citizens in their time of need; and

Whereas, as was witnessed with the response to Hurricane Katrina in the southern United States, it is imperative to have an effective system for alerting the State's citizens of potentially catastrophic weather conditions that present an imminent danger to life and property; and

Whereas, the emergency management and public safety community in New York State continues to provide important public notification of impending weather hazards by working in partnership with federal, state and local agencies, and in cooperation with volunteer and private sector organizations; and

Whereas, as part of this cooperative intergovernmental effort, the National Weather Service continues to improve its ability to track hazardous weather systems, which has, in turn, enhanced its ability to warn the public when threatening weather-related conditions become a certainty; and

Whereas, all of New York State's emergency management partners are encouraged to continue their planning efforts, as well as their participation in training exercises – especially the 18th annual New York State Hazardous Weather communication drills – in order to effectively maintain the high levels of preparedness for dangerous weather hazards and to ensure the safety of our citizens and communities across this great State;

now, Therefore, I, George E. Pataki, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim April 2-8, 2006 as

WEATHER HAZARDS AWARENESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



6 i b e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-first day of March in the year two thousand six.

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Secretary to the Governor